

the Maria,
Convenience
Store Girl



ROSEY



ITEM 17
WE ARE NOT ALONE





MOOSY







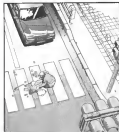








DON'T PULL
LIKE THAT!





















IS THIS
PAPER
BAG
"HOUR?"





COME
HERE
FOR A
MOMENT



LEL
LEL



LIPSTICK
NAIL
POWDER



FATHER, SHOULD
HE PLAY BACK THE
SECURITY CAMERA
JUST IN CASE?

WHAT ARE
YOU TRYING
TO DO
STEALING
THINGS
LIKE THIS?
YOU'RE
A GUY





















THOSE TWO
ARE THEY IN
SOME KIND OF
RELATIONSHIP?

IF THEY ARE
NOT, WHAT
OTHER REASON
COULD HE
HAVE TO



ANYWAY,
I SHOULD GO
FIND OUT
ABOUT IT
MYSELF



WHY DID THAT
GUY TAKE
THE FALL FOR
HER?







I CAME BY
BECAUSE
OF WHAT
HAPPENED
YESTERDAY

I WORK AT A
CONVENIENCE
STORE CALLED
ROSY



I'M JUST
GONNA
GO BACK
HOME

I'LL TELL
HIM YOU
POKED
BY

WONT-4



IF YOU DON'T
MIND I'D LIKE
TO TALK WITH
YOU FOR
A LITTLE BIT





BECAUSE I DID THE
SAFE AS SOON AS
THAT
HAPPENED



YEAR
BUT, I'M THE
ONLY
ONE WHO
KNOWS
ABOUT IT
SO FAR



AND TO SEE
WHY YOUR
BROTHER LET
HIMSELF BE
BLAMED IN
YOUR PLACE

I WANTED TO
FIND OUT THE
TRUTH FOR
MYSELF,



THAT'S
NOT HOW IT
WAS!







I'M THE
ONE WHO
STOLE
THOSE
THINGS!

HAME HAS
NOTHING TO
DO WITH IT!



ALL THIS
IS IN THE
PAST!

LET'S
ALL
GOO
NOW
RIGHT?

YOU
JUST
KEEP
QUIET!

BUT HAME



IT'S A SECURITY
VIDEO FROM
THE STORE.



I'LL LEAVE
THIS WITH
YOU







SHE EVEN MADE IT INTO
A TOP NOTCH HIGH-NAME
SCHOOL, GOT THE HIGHEST
SCORE OUTTA EVERYBODY
ON HER ENTRANCE
EXAM

OUR PARENTS AND RELA-
TIVES EXPLODED A LOT
FROM HER.

UNLIKE
MR. NAM'S
SMART



CAUSE THEY COULDN'T
COUNT ON JACK FROM ME,
THEY FORGOT ALL THEIR
MONEY INTO THIS
LITTLE GIRL.

AND FOR ME
TO LIVE UP TO
WHAT THEY
WANTED
SHE HAD TO
BE SHIPPED
OFF TO SOME
INTEREST EVEN
A SECOND TO
BREATHE.

BUT-- SHE'S
ACTUALLY
JUST A POOR
LITTLE THING

MAISA

YOU
CAUGHT
THAT BOY
WHO STOLE
FROM YOUR
STORE.

BY THE
WAY, I
HEARD
THAT

MAISA

WE'RE SO
GLADVED
THAT
YOU'RE
SAFE.

I'M SORRY
THERE WAS
SOMETHING ON
MY MIND

WHY ARE
YOU IN
SUCH A
HURRY?

OH
HELLO

SORRY,
I KNOW HOW
BUSY YOU
ARE. I'VE
ALREADY
CALLED
YOUR
MOTHER.

THE WHOLE
VILLAGE
KING IS AN
SPOON. YOU
CAN IMAGINE
HOW
TERRIBLE AN
INCIDENT IT
WAS.

WAS IT
LAST YEAR,
A STORE CLERK FROM
ANOTHER COMMENCE
STORE GOT STUCK IN
THE STOMACH, RIGHT IN
FRONT OF THE MIRROR.
HE'D ONLY BEEN TRYING TO
CATCH A BOY WHO'D
JUST STOLEN FROM
HIS STORE.





YOU
LOOK SO
SERI-
OUS.



WHAT IS THE
IMPORTANT
THING YOU
WANTED TO
TALK TO ME
ABOUT?



HONESTLY,
GRANDPA
TOLD US A
LITTLE WHILE
AGO...

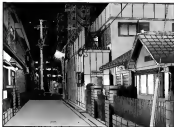


IF YOU DON'T
MIND, WOULD
YOU TELL US
WHAT'S ON IT?



HE SAYS
THAT
YOU HAD
A TAPE
LAST
NIGHT











GIVE US
THE TAPE,
RIGHT
THIS
SECOND?



BUT JUST
BE FRANK,
PLEASE.
TELL US
EVERY-
THING



SEEK
YOU'RE BEING
A LITTLE TOO
STERN...

I DON'T
KNOW MUCH
ELSE, BUT
I DO KNOW
THAT FOR A GEEK
TO STEAL
HER STORE'S
SECURITY MORN...

WELL, IT'S
ABOUT THE SAME
AS ACING
AND GETTING
A CRIM...

BUT IN THE
FUTURE, IF
YOU INSIST
ON HIDING
THINGS FROM
US IN SUCH A
MANNER,
I'M SORRY, BUT
WE WON'T BE
ABLE TO PUT YOU
UP HERE!

NOW WE HAVE TO
MAKE SURE TO
CLEAR THIS UP



DO YOU
UNDERSTAND
MAYBE WE CAN
LIVE UNDER
THE SAME ROOF
AS YOU,
A COMPLETE
STRANGER TO
US, WITHOUT
WORRYING.

BECAUSE
WE HAVE
MUTUAL
TRUST
FOR ONE
ANOTHER



SO, YOU
DON'T
MIND...

IDENTITY
COMES
DOWN TO YOU
CUTTING YOUR
POSITION AT
RISK, RIGHT?



MAKSA,
I ASK
YOU--IF
PLEASE,
TELL US THE
TRUTH...



KENJI



ANDER
DON'T TELL
ME YOU'VE
ALREADY
FORGOTTEN
ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED

IF YOU
DON'T...



GRANNY,
DON'T STICK
YOUR NOSE
INTO THIS



RICH, THAT'S
TOO CRUEL!



I'M SORRY

MARIA



I CAN'T
TELL YOU
ANYTHING
NOT THIS
TIME

NO
MATTER
WHAT
HAPPENS





I'M SORRY
BUT WE
WOON'T BE
ABLE TO
PUT YOU UP
HERE!



I'LL
NEVER
TELL ANYONE
ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED!
IN RETURN, WILL YOU
PROMISE ME THAT
YOU'LL NEVER DO
THAT AGAIN?



PLEASE
FORGIVE
ME GRAND
MA.



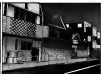
STILL
I HAVE TO
KEEP THE
PROMISE
I MADE TO
GRAM

THE
PROMISE
I MADE
TO GRAM

I WAS
TRYING TO
RETURN THE
FAVOR, BUT
NOW MY
ONLY TRID
IT BACK BY
CAUSING
TROUBLE







AKIKI
WHAT AM
I GOING
TO DO NOW?



APPLY
WITHIN
THIRTY-DAYS



AAAACK!



WHAT'S
WRONG
EXTERIOR?



I WILL
WAKE UP
NOW WELL, YOU'VE
CAUSE ME, OR HOW
YOU WERE TALKING
DURING MY STORY.

—WASH

LOOK AT
THIS

WHAT'S
GOING ON?
WHAT'S ALL
THE SCREAM
ABOUT? IT'S
EARLY IN THE
MORNING





BUT I NEVER
THOUGHT OF
HER THAT WAY
NOT ONCE.

YOU
CALLED
MARRA A
COMPLETE
STRANGER.



TO FIND
SUCH A
GIRL... IN THE
WORLD WE
LIVE IN

I DOUBT
THAT IT'S
COMMON...



UNLIKE THOSE
PEOPLE WHO
NEVER WAS
PUSHED
AGAINST A
SHRINKING SOUL.

SHE SEEMED
WORDED AND
CARED FOR
EVERYONE MORE
THAN WE EVEN
DO FOR OUR OWN
FAMILIES.



THERE ARE HAPPY
FAMILIES IN THIS
WORLD WHO ARE
TIED BY BLOOD, BUT
THEY'RE COLDER
THAN STRANGERS
TOWARDS EACH
OTHER.



















YOU BEING
DIFFERENT
THAN ANY-
ONE ELSE IN
OUR FAMILY
MAYBE.





HE LUNGED
ACROSS ME...
WITH THE TIP OF
HIS TONGUE.
UNABLE TO STAND
THE PECULIAR SOUND
ANYMORE, I RAMMED
HIS...

WHOLE BODY
WAS TREMBLING
AND WAS WET
TO THE POINT OF
EMBARRASSMENT
AS I FELT HIS HOT
BREATH ON
MY EAR
HIS FINGERS
FINALLY GRIPPED
AT MY...

**ITEM IS
TAKEN AWAY**









I TOLD
HIM I'M
NOT INTO
THOSE
STUPID
THINGS...

MUCH EIGHT
HEADACHES
FROM EVEN
LOOKING AT
WORDS ON A
PAGE!



THAT'S RIGHT
SO THIS IS THE
MAG SHOGG'S
BEEN
SERIALIZING
HIS NOVEL IN

WHAT?
DID YOU
SERIOUSLY
NOT EVEN
KNOW THAT
UNTIL
NOW?



I'VE
ALWAYS BEEN
CURIOUS ABOUT
THE KINDS OF
NOVELS THAT
SHOGG WRITES



WHAT THE ?
WHAT THE ?
THIS FINGER MADE
THEIR WAY UP TO MY
DIPPING SECRET
GARDEN!

ER--
ARE YOU
TELLING ME THAT
SHOGG WROTE THIS
FREAKY STUFF?



YES
THAT'S
RIGHT
IT TOTALLY
WROTE
PHASE!

WOW,
YOU JUST
READ THIS AND
WERE TOTALLY
UNPHASED
MAYBE



SHOGG WROTE THIS
FREAKY STUFF







I'VE GOT
TO SEND THE
SCRIPT BY
5 O'CLOCK
OR WE WON'T
BE ABLE TO
MEET THE
DEADLINE

SERGE
PENCE
HURRY AND
MAKE SURE
TO FINISH
IT UP



NO MATTER
HOW MUCH
I TRY, I CAN'T
DIVIDE
THE LAST
SCENE

I'M WELL
AWARE OF
THAT, BUT...





I THOUGHT
THAT BY DOING
THIS I'D HELP
YOU TO BE ABLE
TO DIVINCH
THE STORY

EYAAACK!
WHA
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?

HUM?

I'M SORRY,
BUT... COULD
YOU BRING THIS
UPSTAIRS TO
SHOOP?

SURE!

AH
MAYBE

I'VE BROUGHT
SOME TEA FOR
YOU, SHOGO!





ACK!
IT'S NOT
WHAT
YOU
THINK,
MARSH



THANK
YOU
FOR THE
SCRIPT

GOOD
NIGHT,
SENSEI

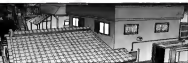


GOOD
NIGHT!



SENSEI,
YOUR
SCRIPT--I
NEED
TO HURRY!









OH,
TAMAKAWA!
YEAR-LONG
TIME NO
TALK.



YEAH,
I JUST
SAW IT
ON THE
NEWS.

YOU
DID IT!
CON-
GRATULA-
TIONS!



HELLO?



SHOOO,
THE
PHONE!



ARE TAMURO
AND NISHITAMA
DONNA COME,
TOO?

THE AWARD
PARTY?
OH, RIGHT.
OF COURSE...
I'D BE
DELIGHTED
TO COME.



ANYWAY,
THAT'S
AMAZING
YOU.

WOW



GOOD
JOB!

THANKS
FOR TAKING
ON THE NIGHT
SHIFT
MR. ARROW



A FEW
DAYS
LATER...



OH NO
I WAS
WORKING
SO LATE
BECAUSE
SHOO
WENT TO
THAT
AWARD
PARTY



YOU
WROTE
UNTIL
LATE INTO
THE NIGHT
THIS
EVENING

THE STORY
MUST HAVE
BEEN QUITE
GLAD



OH NO
THAT'S
ALL RIGHT

DIAN SAYS
HE'LL COVER
IT IN BETWEEN
TWO
CAT-NAPS



MAYBE I
SHOULD
REALLY
TAKE ON THE
MIDNIGHT
SHIFT
TODAY
TOO





WONDER
IF SOME
THING
WAS
FOUND



I'VE
WRITTEN
IT DOWN
RIGHT
HERE

SHOGO.

MS. UNAZUKI
ASKED ME
TO GIVE YOU
A MESSAGE.



OH, THAT'S
RIGHT!
MS. UNAZUKI
CALLED A LITTLE
WHILE AGO,

AND
LEFT A
MESSAGE.







SHOGO,
WHY DID YOU
TEAR APART THAT
MAGAZINE...
YOUR OWN
MOM!

SHOGO?!





THAT BOY USED
TO OFFEND ME
HENCE CRYING
EVER SINCE HE
WAS IN
SCHOOL.

HE HAD A HABIT
OF LOOKING
AWAY UP IN HIS
ROOM FOR THE
WHOLE DAY AND
REFUSING TO EAT
ANYTHING THAT
WOULD HAPPEN

IT SEEMS THAT
SOMETHING
VERY
UNPLEASANT
MUST HAVE
HAPPENED AT
THE FUNERAL
PARTY



I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT
WENT
WRONG
BUT

THIS IS
A BIG
POODLE
WE'RE
SHORT-
STAFFED
HERE.



WELL, WOULD
EVERYONE
SOMETHING
THE MATTER
WHY DO YOU
ALL LOOK SO
WEARY?

OH,
MR.
MAYOR







SO I TELL MYSELF I HAD TO WORK REALLY HARD IN OTHER AREAS TO MAKE UP FOR THAT



I'M NOT GOOD WITH THINGS LIKE COM PUTERS



THAT'S GOOD THINKING



OH, YES. SHIROO IS PROBABLY UPSTAIRS



IS HE HOME?



THEN PLEASE EXCUSE ME FOR A LITTLE WHILE



SHOOON

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?



HOW WOULD
YOU KNOW
WHAT I'M
FEELING?



SHOOON













IT WAS
ACTUALLY
A FAN LETTER
TO ME, THE
EDITOR.

IT READ,
"PLEASE
CONTINUE TO
PUBLISH SUCH
GREAT STORIES
FOR YOUR
FANS!"



MY FAMILY
WAS AGAINST
THE IDEA,
TOLDING ME TO
STOP WORKING
AT SUCH
A FLEET-IT JOB.

AND IT WAS SO
EMBARRASSING
TO HAVE TO HAND
OUT MY BUSINESS
CARDS AT SCHOOL
REUNIONS.

SECOND COMING
PUBLISHING INC.
MINNETONKA,
MINN. 55345-1000
KAREN LANGRISH
KELLY LANGRISH



IT WAS
THE ONE
LETTER I
GOT FROM
A READER.

A Letter
to the Editor
Dear Editor,
I am writing
to you to
thank you
for the
great stories
you have
published
in your
magazine.

BUT,
SOMETHING
CHANGED
THE PERSON
WHO I WAS.



AND WITH
THAT BRIGHT
GLIMMER
OF A SUDEN
REALIZED
WHAT IT REALLY
MEANT TO BE
AN EDITOR.

THAT ONE
LETTER
ENCOURAGED
ME TO KEEP
GOING.



EVER SINCE
THEN,
I'VE DECIDED
TO STOP.

LOOKING
DOWN AT
THE WORK
THAT I DO.



I TOLD
MYSELF
THAT THERE WAS SOME
ONE CHEERING ME ON IN
MY WORK, AND THERE
WAS SOMEONE WHO
WOULD BE JOYFULLY
WAITING FOR ME
EVERY MONTH.



YOU ARE
WORKING AT
A CONVENIENCE
STORE AND
EATING ARE
ACTUALLY
REALLY
ALSO!

I UNDER
STAND
HOW YOU
FEEL, MR.
UNAZUKI!



EVERY
THING WILL
BE FINE
MR.
UNAZUKI!

I'M SURE
SHOGO WILL
UNDERSTAND
IF YOU TALK
TO HIM



THE ISLANDERS ARE
JUST LIKE THE
CUSTOMERS WHO
COME TO OUR
STORE TO BUY OUR
PRODUCTS.

AND
HOMELIFE HAS
JUST USE THE
MANUFACTURED
GOODS PROVIDED
US WITH THOSE
GOODS



AND WITH
THAT IF OUR
CUSTOMERS
ARE SATISFIED
AND HAPPY
THEN IT ALSO
MAKES
ME HAPPY
TO BE
WORKING
HERE!

IF COMPANIES MANU-
FACTURE THEIR GOODS
WHILE THINKING
"LET'S MAKE SOME-
THING THAT'S BETTER
BETTER THAN OUR
LAST PRODUCT!"









I HEARD SHE
HATED THE JOB SO
MUCH THAT SHE
WAS EMBARRASSED
TO HAND OUT
HER BUSINESS
CARD WHEN SHE
STARTED WORKING
THERE.



THERE IS
A FEMALE
EDITOR AT
THE COM-
PANY THAT
PUBLISHED
THIS MAGA-
ZINE.



BUT
ONE DAY
SHE FELT
SOBLY
ENCOURAGED FROM
A LETTER SHE RECEIVED
FROM A FAN...AND THEN
SINCE SHE IS BEEN ABLE
TO FEEL
CONFIDENT AND
PROUD IN WHAT
SHE DOES.



WHAT MATTERS IS
WHETHER YOU DO
THE WORK WITH
ALL YOUR HEART OR
NOT... THAT IS WHAT
SHE SAYS.



THERE IS NO
SUCH THING
AS SECOND-
OR THIRD-
RATE IN THIS
WORLD.

CALLED ME A
THIRD RATE
NOVELIST.



THOSE
BAD
WORDS.





EVEN
MR.
UNAZUKI
SAID...

SHINGO IS
WRITING
A GREAT NOVEL.
ALWAYS POUR-
ING ALL OF
HIS ENERGY
INTO IT!



THAT'S NOT
TRUE, SHINGO!



GOING
TO THAT
PARTY...

INGO LIKE
EATING ICE
CREAM THAT
LOOKED GOOD
BUT ACTUALLY
INGO VERY
BAD FOR YOUR
STOMACH



THAT'S WHY
INGO IS ABLE
TO HAVE
CONFIDENCE
AND PRIDE AS
AN EDITOR









ITEM 19
ST. VALENTINE'S DAY







I BELIEVE
ONCE SATURDAYS AND
SUNDAYS THERE IS NO
SCHOOL OR WORK, THAT
PERHAPS THOSE WHO
MISSED THE CHANCE TO
GIVE CHOCOLATE TO THEIR
LOVED ONES ON THE
RIGHT DATE WILL
BUY THEM ON
THE FOLLOWING
MORNING

LET'S
RUN THIS
SEASON
UNTIL
THE
15TH

BUY 5000
FEBRUARY
THIS IS A
SUNDAY
THIS YEAR

2	5				
7	14	15	16	17	
21	22	23	24		
28					

FEBRUARY 13TH
(THURSDAY)

FOR THAT
VERY REASON -
PLACE A STICKER
THAT SAYS
"I'M DRY" ON THE
MARCH 1ST OF
THIS YEAR.

BUT
GIVING
THE
CHOCO-
LATE A
DAY TOO
LATE IS...

WITH THIS
THEY'LL BE ABLE
TO KNOW FEEL
GOOD ABOUT
GIVING THEIR
LOVED ONES
CHOCOLATE
LATER IN THE
MONTH







I'LL
LEAVE
IT IN
HERE SO
I WON'T
LOSE IT



A CARD?

OKAY



IF YOU COULD
PLEASE GIVE
THIS TO HIM,
THANK YOU.

AND...



YES,
OF
COURSE.

I HAVE
RECEIVED
YOUR
MESSAGE
CLEARLY.

PLEASE, I'M
COUNTING
ON YOU.



WHEN I
MOVE TO KYUSHU
I'LL STOP BY
MY STORE FROM
THE ROYAL CONVE-
NIENCE STORE
OVER THERE!

THANKS!
RUN ALONG
MOMO!



OH I DON'T NEED
ANYTHING LIKE THAT
THOUGH. ALL I JUST WANT
OF OUR THANKS TO
OUR CUSTOMERS.



UM...
THE
DELIVERY
FEE?



DELIV-
ERY
FEE?







DID YOU
USE THE
CHOCOLATE
THAT I PUT
UNDER THE
COURTNEY?



FEBRUARY 12TH
(FRIDAY)



OH, THAT
CHOCOLATE?
I THINK I GOT
THAT BACK
PUTTING IT BACK
ON THE SHELF
LAST NIGHT



SORRY!?







MARUO
IT'S ALREADY
VERY LATE.
LET'S CALL IT
A NIGHT.

I'VE BEEN
GOING THROUGH
ON DEMAND
OUT THERE LIKE
THAT. YOU'LL
CATCH A COUP



WAIT!



WHAT
THE HELL
IS THIS ALL
ABOUT?



OH,
THERE
SHE IS.
THAT'S THE
WOMAN!



HUH?





THOUGH
IF YOU STILL
WANT TO
DATE ME AND
HAVE AN
ADULT,
I HAVE NO
PROBLEM
WITH THAT

OH, MR.
DIRECTOR,
I HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT



REALLY, EVEN IF
YOU DON'T WANT
TO GET YOURSELF
TRASHED BY ME,
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS

I ALREADY
HAVE A
WIFE AND
CHILDREN



WA-
WAIT!

AWA,
IT'S OKAY
WHY SO SHY
ALL OF A
SUDDEN?



IS THAT
WHAT MADE
YOU DECIDE TO
SLIP THAT NOTE
INTO THE
SCHOOL BASKET?

DO YOU
HAVE
A GRUDGE
AGAINST
ME OR
SOME-
THING

UGH...
I AM THINKING
ABOUT IT GIVING
ME CHILLS







ANYWAY
I'M GLAD
IT CAME
BACK TO
US IN ONE
PIECE.



I'M NOT SURE MY LAST TWO
GALS WERE THE
OLD-ROBUST-ROBUST TWO
UNUSUAL.



WHA-
WHAT'S THE
MATTER,
MAMOT?

AREN'T
YOU
HAPPY?



IS TO
SEND YOUR
FEELINGS TO
SOMEONE
ELSE...
LIKE THIS
GIRL DID

NOT NOW
I'M THINK-
ING THAT
THE REALLY
IMPORTANT
THING...

THE TRUTH
IS, I USED TO
THINK THAT
CHOCOLATES
WERE ALL
YOU WERE
SUPPOSED TO
GIVE A SPECIAL
PERSON ON
VALENTINE'S
DAY



NO,
THAT'S
NOT IT.

THIS CARD
JUST MADE
ME THINK
ABOUT
SOMETHING
FOR A
MOMENT



SO
THE TRUE
MEANING
OF THE
OCCASION
HAS
NOTHING
TO DO WITH
WHAT
IT'S NOW
BECOME.

THE WHOLE
CUSTOM OF
GIVING
CHOCOLATES IS
JUST A TREND
THAT SOME
CANDY
COMPANY
CREATED.



HAHA
WHY SUCH
A SERIOUS
THOUGHT?

VALENTINE'S
DAY IS
SIMPLY JUST
ANOTHER
ANNUAL EVENT
OF RESTRAINT
NOTHING
MORE.



FIRST OF ALL
HAVING WOMEN
CONFESS THEIR
FEELINGS TO MEN,
IS A STUPID IDEA
THAT DOESN'T
EVEN SUIT
OUR
TIMES.



WELL, I
SUPPOSE
THAT'S
TRUE.
BUT



BUT DON'T
YOU FEEL
GOOD GETTING
CHOCOLATES
FROM WOMEN—
AS A MAN
ENJOY?



FATHER
HOW CAN YOU SAY
SUCH A THING IN
FRONT OF HER?

YOU SAID,

YOU WERE
LOOKING
FORWARD
TO EATING
MANY
CHOCOLATES.



YOU
KNOW THAT
CHOCOLATE
FROM THE
LITTLE GIRL?
MARIA WENT
TO GIVE IT
TO THE BOY



I ONLY SAW
EICH AND
FATHER AT
THE STORE

RIGHT
WHORE'S
MADAM?



—AT
LEAST UNTIL
SHE
COMES
BACK

OUTSIDE
LEAVE IT
ALONE!



THE
CHOCOLATE
MARIA
MADE IS...



STOPPED
PICKING UP
MADAME'S
CHOCOLATE
IT'S HIS TOO!

OH
MAYBE
IN THE
SHOPPING
BAG...











ITEM 120
MAKE A GOOD COPY









TATSURO,
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?



HE
SNATCHED
YOUR BRAG,
MARSH!

SHIT
TAKE A
LOOK AT
THIS!

OH,
MARSH!

I JUST
CAUGHT
THE UNDER-
WEAR
THIEF!

















THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

HOW CAN I WRITE 20 PAGES AND GET THEM DONE BY TOMORROW MORNING?

IF YOU ASK ME I WOULD JUST TO FORGET WRITING THE STUPID THING BY HAND.



I'LL HELP YOU DO IT.

WRITE IT AGAIN.



WHATEVER HAPPENS LET'S JUST DO WHAT WE CAN.

WE'LL ONLY STOP TRYING IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT.

WE CAN DO IT TOGETHER IF WE EACH WRITE 20 PAGES.

HAHA!



YEAH JUST LIKE MAJIMA SAID.

IF YOU GIVE UP AND YOU DON'T EVEN TRY THEN YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING IN THE FUTURE!



I'LL ALSO HELP WHEN TOMORROW MORNING CAN TAKE OVER MY GUILT.

THAT'S RIGHT.



















WELL,
THAT DOES
WITHOUT
SAYING



OF COURSE NOT!
IF YOU BECOME
ONE OF ROBY'S
FRIENDS,
CUSTOMERS FROM
OVER ON THAT
SIDE THERE
ENOUGH

OH, YOU
DON'T NEED
TO DO THAT!



I LIKE THIS
ROBY

THIS STORE
FEELS WARM
AND COZY EVERY
TIME I VISIT IT



OH, SO
CUTE

YOU
KNOW
HOW IT
GOT
RIPPED
APART
THIS
TIME

THE COMPANY
I WORK FOR IS
ACTUALLY IN
A SHOPPING
MALL, AND WE
CARE! THIS
ITEM



AND,
THIS IS
FOR YOU,
MAMBA





THANK YOU
VERY MUCH



OH
WELL...
HOW DID
YOU KNOW
HER SECRET?



TRY IT
ON



THE MOTHER
I TOLD YOU TO
BUY THAT
SHIRT

TATSURO
DIDN'T



ACTUALLY
TATSURO KID
OF TOLD ME ON
THE SIX



TATSURO

HOW DO YOU
KNOW WHAT
IT IS?

TATSURO,
YOU
LITTLE I

THE MOTHER
I TOLD YOU TO
BUY THAT
SHIRT

**THEY SAID
WE MEET AGAIN**





I'M REALLY SORRY FOR FLAKING OUT ON YOU LIKE THIS. I MEAN IT'S GREAT IT'S A BIG DEAL YOU'RE FINALLY SUBMITTING YOUR WORK BEFORE IT'S EVEN DUE AND I CAN'T EVEN GO THERE TO PICK IT UP

I'LL SEND A COURSE TO YOU INSTEAD



HEY KAGIRI ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YES, THANKS



GRAY...

I THINK I'LL BE DONE IN ABOUT AN HOUR



I'LL MAKE SURE TO SEND IN MY SCRIPT

YES PLEASE, DO THAT

YES, THANKS



WELL, YOU ALWAYS WORK TOO HARD

NOW THAT YOU'RE SICK, YOU SHOULD AT LEAST USE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A BREAK



BUT HERE I AM COUGHING UP MY LUNGS. IT IS THE MOST DANGEROUS THING HE EVER LET HAPPEN IN MY ENTIRE LIFE

SPINACH'S RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER





GASP!

A-ACK!



I'M SORRY
I WAS LOOKING
FOR MR. YUUKA'S
RESIDENCE



MARJAH

T...TENDON?









THOOL

I'LL BE
ABLE TO
CHASE 'EM
DOWN IN
NO TIME



HUNT
OUT.

I'LL DELIVER
IT TO THEM

IT'S
THE TRUCK
THAT WAS
FOLLOWING
OUT JUST
AS I GOT IN
RIGHT?



I MIGHT NOT
LOOK IT, BUT
THAT'S THE
MORNING MY
CO-WORKERS
HAVE GIVEN
ME.

I'M NOT
TRYING TO
DRAG OR
ANYTHING, BUT
THEY
CALL ME
"THE
SPEED-
LIGHT."



GRAY
JUST LEAVE
IT TO ME!



I'LL BE
RIGHT
BACK!



DO YOU
KNOW
WHERE
THEIR
NEXT
STOP IS?

UHL, WELL,
IF YOU TAKE
THIS ROAD
FOR ABOUT
20 MINUTES,
THERE'S
A LOCATION
CALLED
NABURABHI
WILASHI



GARE
HE'S ALWAYS
BEEN LIKE THAT
EVER SINCE HE
WAS YOUNG



YOU
THINK HE'S
REALLY
GOING TO
BE ALL
RIGHT?



WHAT
DID HE
MEAN BY
"SPEED OF
LIGHT?"

OF THE
WAY



A
MOTOR
CYCLE
GANG?

WHEN WE
WERE IN
SCHOOL,
HE WAS THE
LEADER OF
THE NEIGH-
BORHOOD
MOTORCYCLE
GANG



PROB-
ABLY
THAT HE
DROVE AT
A SPEED
THAT'S
LIGHT-
NING
FAST



THE COURIER GUY STILL HAIN'T COMEY



WELL, THEY'OF COURSE ALL SPLIT UP AS SOON AS WE GRADUATED BUT WHEN THE GANG WAS TOGETHER, THEY WERE ALL STILL PUTTY TOUGH



HE MIGHT NOT SEEM LIKE IT AT FIRST, BUT HE'S ACTUALLY VERY INTO-PORTED-AND-THOUGHTFUL



WE'LL BE HERE SOON



HAH







ACR







DOCTORS
IN TOKYO
ARE TOO
NEURO-
NATIC

I'M
USED TO
ROLLING
AROUND
ON THE
GROUND

I'M SO
BT
LONER



ARE YOU
REALLY
ALL
RIGHT?

OH YEAH
I'VE JUST
GOT
SCRAPED
UP
THAT'S
ALL



IT WAS
THAT
GUY'S
FAULT



NOT TO
MENTION...
THAT I SINCE
TOOK OUR
COMPANY'S
MOTORCYCLE

BUT THERE
ONLY I'M THE
ONE WHO
SUCKER ALL OF
MY IMPORTANT
OUTER JUST DO
ING SOMETHING
THAT I FELT
LIKE WOULD



WHAT
ARE YOU
GONNA
DO THEN
TERRID?

SH-OR

OH
I OWNED
IT IS DEAD



THEY
WANT
YOU TO
QUIT

EXACTLY

SO NOW
THEY WANT
ME TO
REASON
FROM
MY JOE





OH
HOW ARE
YOUR
INJURIES
DOING?

THANKS TO
YOUR HELP
I FEEL MUCH
BETTER.
I CAN'T
THINK YOU
ENOUGH FOR
YOUR HELP.



THE
NEXT
DAY.



HELLO.



SHE WENT
TO GET SOME
CHANGE
FROM THE
BANK.

SHE IS
BE RIGHT
BACK.

WHERE'S
MAMAT?



DIDN'T I
TELL YOU?

MAMAT IS
CLASSMATE
THAT YOU WERE
TALKING ABOUT
YESTERDAY?

YEP.









THEM 102

A GINGERBREAD NIGHT





THAT'LL
BE
TWO TEN
PLEASE

HEP



EXCUSE
ME?

I'LL COME
WITH YOU
TO GO LOOK
FOR IT



WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?



OH
BOY...

I THINK
I LOST
MY WALLET

THAT'S
TERRIBLE



ARE YOU
SURE
YOU'RE
OKAY?



IT'S
ALREADY
GONE

AND WITH
THOSE SHOPS
A TREMENDOUS
AMOUNT OF
MONEY
WENT TO IT

I'LL JUST
FIND IT
NEXT TIME



IS THAT
ALL
RIGHT?



PROBABLY
DROPPED
IT SOME
WHERE
WHILE
WORKING
IN THE FIELD



I'M
VERY
SORRY
TO ASK

BUT COULD
YOU LEND ME
MONEY FOR
THE BUS?



OF COURSE
I'LL LEND IT
TO YOU

JUST
WAIT ONE
SECOND



HAVING TO
WAIT FOR
A WHOLE
HOUR GETS
DIFFICULT

WHEN
YOU'RE
AS OLD
AS I AM

300 YEN
IS ALL
I NEED





OH,
GIRL!



WHERE'S
MAMMA?

OH!

WHY
SHE WAS
HERE JUST
A MOMENT
AGO



IS SOME
THING THE
MATTER?



UM, THERE WAS
AN ELLIPTIC MAN
WHO WANTED TO
BORROW MONEY
PREVIOUS
BUT I REFUSED
TO LET
HIM.

WHAT YOU'RE
SAYING IS
ABSOLUTELY
RIGHT

PAROON
THE FOR
THOU
BUND
YOU



SIR-I



THIS IS MY OWN
MONEY!
IT HAS
NOTHING
TO DO WITH
THE STORE.



HERE.
TAKE
THIS.



PLEASE,
TAKE IT.



THANKS.
I WON'T
SAID NO
TO EACH
ONE
ANON.



AND—,
THIS IS
ON ME.

YOU WERE
THIRTY-
NIGHT
YOU!













NORRY
DAD
DADD

I MUGALOUS
OF YOUR
WASDAY

WELL
I'M OFF
NOW

DAEIE HOTEL



I AM NOT
REALLY
USED TO

WEAR
ING SUCH
FANCY
CLOTHES

OH, NON-
SENSE

THE DRESS
LOOKS
STUNNING
ON YOU









THEN LAST YEAR,
AFTER VISITING HER GRAVE
ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF
HER DEATH, I WENT
OVER TO THE PILLOS.

THAT'S WHY
THE FIELD WAS
ABANDONED
ONCE SHE HAD
PASSED.

OF COURSE,
I NEVER
WORKED
IN A FIELD
UNTIL
AFTER SHE DIED.



EVERY TIME
I TOOK A WALK
IT WAS LIKE
THE GRIEF WAS
VISIBLY
SOB, SOB, SOB.
IT JUST
WENT ON
CRYING.

THE PILLOS
HAD
BECOME
ROCK
SOLID.

AND OF
COURSE,



I THOUGHT
AAA.
I'M SURE
THAT'S THE
SOUND OF
MY WIFE
CRYING.
SHE IS
WEEPING
SO
FERALLY.



SOMETHING
WOULD ALL
OF A SUDDEN
WELL UP
INSIDE ME.

ANYWAY,
I HEARD IT
WEEPING.



FROM THAT
DAY ON
I VISITED THE
PILLOS EVERY
SINGLE DAY.
THE LAND
RECOVERED
ITS ORIGINAL
SHAPE AFTER
A MONTH.









NOW
IT IS
WIND-
ING

ARE YOU
SURE I CAN
REALLY SLEEP
IN A ROOM
LIKE THIS?



FRANCIS MCHALL
ROOM



SO I
SHOULD
NO-YOU
THREATEN
NOW



IF YOU NEED
ANYTHING
FEEL FREE
TO USE THAT
PHONE OVER
THERE
ANY TIME



WAIT A
MINUTE!









HA... AHHH
THIS FEELS
GOOD



I FEEL LIKE
I'VE BECOME
A QUEEN
IN SOME
FARAWAY
KINGDOM



I SHOULD'VE
COME TO A FANCY
HOTEL LIKE
THIS ONE...



WHEN GRANDMA
WAS STILL ALIVE.